

Washington, DC - Today, Congressman Steve King released the following statement after an independent panel of experts released their after action report of this year's Missouri River flooding entitled, "Review of the Regulation of the Missouri River Mainstem Reservoir System During the Flood of 2011." The report contained information about how the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers managed the Missouri River before, during, and after this year's flood, and it contained several recommendations about steps to be taken in order to avoid a repeat of this year's flooding in the future. One of the panel's recommendations was a call for a "review of the System storage allocations, to include the flood-control storage needed for floods like 2011 or larger." This recommendation falls in line with H.R. 2942, legislation Congressman King has introduced to recalculate the total amount of flood control storage space within the Missouri River Reservoir System so that it is sufficient to control the runoff experienced during this year's flood.

"For months, I have been arguing that Congress must take action to require the Corps to update the amount of storage capacity in the System that is geared toward flood control," said King. "The Pick Sloan Program was built to protect us from the worst flooding ever experienced - which at that time was the flood of 1881. This year we experienced a new worst case scenario for flooding on the Missouri River, and we should update the management of the System accordingly. My bill would do this, and I am pleased that that panel recognized the need for this kind of change in the recommendations it made today."

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